FISCAL NOTE

SB 27

January 18, 2007

SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes filing of a petition for temporary relief from a visitation order requiring visitation of a child with a parent if such parent was previously convicted of child abuse or child sexual abuse.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – Not Significant
Increase State Revenues – Not Significant /
                Domestic Violence Community Education Fund

Increase Local Govt. Expenditures – Not Significant
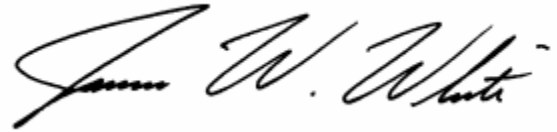**Increase Local Govt. Revenues – Not Significant**

Assumptions:

- A very small number of cases will meet the requirements of this bill since visitation is generally not granted to a parent found to have committed child abuse or child sexual abuse. In cases in which visitation has been awarded, a termination petition will usually be filed by the other parent or DCS. Thus it will be a relatively rare occurrence for a child to file a petition. Local governments will not require any additional clerks to assist petitioners in the completion of the temporary relief of visitation form.
- According to the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), the issues giving rise to such petitions are already the subject of petitions filed by the non-abusing parent. Any increase in the caseload of the courts would be minimal and would not result in a significant increase in state expenditures.
- The AOC will develop form petitions for public use. Any additional expenditures incurred to create such a petition will be absorbed within existing resources.
- The Department of Children's Services currently imposes the visitation restrictions proposed in the legislation and will not incur additional expenditures.
- Any increase in local government revenues from fines will not be significant.

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- Any increase in civil penalties deposited into the Domestic Violence Community Education Fund will not be significant.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

James W. White, Executive Director